

REMARKS

1. *Status of the Application.* The present application was allowed on June 25, 2004, and the issue fee was submitted on September 27, 2004. Subsequently, certain errors in the claims were discovered which appeared to render some claims invalid under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly, Assignee, through its undersigned attorney, petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.313; that Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.313 accompanies this Preliminary Amendment associated Request for Continued Examination.

2. *Claim Amendments.* Claims 11, 13, and 16 are amended herein to change references to "client node" to "node." In each instance, there was no antecedent basis for the term "client node." Similarly, claim 12 is amended herein to change a reference to "server node" to "node," as there was no antecedent basis for the term "server node."

Claim 11 was further amended to remove dependence from claim 24, as the combined recitations of claims 11 and 24 would be nonsensical from a technical standpoint.

No new matter is added by way of the amendments made herein. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is therefore respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application as a whole is in proper form and condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested, such that the application can advance to issue at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that the application can be placed in even better condition for allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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